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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part X)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Rae Kwon CHUNG (Republic of Korea)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 97 (see A/52/628, para. 2). Action on sub-item (i) was taken at the 22nd and 46th meetings, on 29 October and 2 December 1997. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/52/SR.22 and 46).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/52/L.10 and A/C.2/52/L.33

2. At the 22nd meeting, on 29 October, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cultural development" (A/C.2/52/L.10), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development; 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in establishing an independent World

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/52/628 and addenda.

Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission to submit its final report to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work; and 51/179 of 16 December 1996, concerning the report of the World Commission,

"Taking note of the fact that public opinion throughout the world, as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations, has become much more sensitive to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension into the entire development process, in particular as highlighted by Our Creative Diversity,[1] the report of the World Commission,

"Recognizing that this awareness of the central importance of culture is, nevertheless, still insufficiently present in development policy and practice,

"Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects of regional or interregional scope, aiming at the promotion of the objectives of the Decade, and in the work of the World Commission and its follow-up,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1994-1997;[2]

"2. Invites all Member States, intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, and non-governmental organizations:

"(a) To ensure that the lessons and experiences gained and the momentum generated through the World Decade as well as the World Commission on Culture and Development are reflected in all their development strategies;

"(b) To intensify their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable human development that fully respects cultural diversity, taking into account their cultural values and identity;

"3. Stresses the importance of the question of interaction between culture and development, as a priority theme in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the fact that it should be reflected in the structure and activities of the Organization;

"4. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout

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[1] Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1996.

[2] A/52/382.

the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures;

"5. Takes note of the First Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries,[3] held at Medellín, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997, and welcomes the convening of the "Culture Meeting for the Coming Millennium" which will be held in 1999;

"6. Invites the Secretary-General to stimulate, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, further international debate on culture and development;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General, in the elaboration of the International Development Strategy for the next United Nations Development Decade, to include guidelines to promote culturally sensitive development."

3. At the 46th meeting, on 2 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Hans-Peter Glanzer (Austria), introduced and orally corrected a draft resolution (A/C.2/52/L.33), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.10.

4. At the same meeting, before the adoption of the resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, China and Mexico (see A/C.2/52/SR.46).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.33, as orally corrected (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.33, draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.10 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Cultural development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which it proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, in which it requested the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in establishing an independent World Commission on Culture and Development, and expected the World Commission co submit its final report to the

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[3] See A/52/432.

General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to the United Nations General Assembly no later than three years after it began its work, and 51/179 of 16 December 1996, concerning the report of the World Commission,

Taking note of the fact that public opinion throughout the world, as well as Governments and non-governmental organizations, has become much more sensitive to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension into the entire development process,

Recognizing that this awareness of the central importance of culture is, nevertheless, insufficiently present in development policy and practice,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, United Nations bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects of national, regional and interregional scope, aiming at the promotion of the objectives of the Decade, and in the work of the World Commission and its follow-up,

Taking note of the first meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Medellín, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,[4]

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development during the period 1994-1997;[5]

2. Invites all Member States, intergovernmental bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations:

(a) To ensure that the lessons and experiences gained and the momentum generated through the World Decade and the World Commission on Culture and Development are reflected in all their development strategies, as appropriate;

(b) To submit their comments to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development, entitled Our Creative Diversity;[6]

(c) To intensify their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable development that fully respects cultural diversity, taking into account their cultural values and identity;

3. Stresses the importance of the question of interaction between culture and development, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to accord priority to this theme in its work;

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[4] See A/52/432.

[5] A/52/382.

[6] Paris, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 1996.

4. Encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to pursue its ongoing task of promoting throughout the United Nations system a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development, taking into account the diversity of cultures;

5. Welcomes the convening in Stockholm in 1998 of an intergovernmental conference on cultural policies, organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in the elaboration of the international development strategy for the next United Nations development decade, to include recommendations for the integration of the cultural dimension in development activities;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to include the outcome of the Stockholm conference in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.